

Appl. No. 10/709,610
Amdt. dated January 24, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 01, 2005

REMARKS

1. Objection to the specification:

- 5 The Abstract is amended to revise "reflect piece" to "reflective piece". No new matter is entered.

Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

- 10 2. Rejection of claims 1, 5, and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Witte et al. (US 6,831,759):

Claim 1 has been amended as described in the following.

- 15 One difference between Witte and the amended claim 1 is the location of the reflective piece relative to the light source and the lens. Witte's reflective piece is between the light source and the lens whereas the amended claim 1 has the light source between the reflective piece and the lens.
- 20 This difference has been incorporated into claim 1 in the following added limitations:

the reflective piece located on a first side of the light source

and

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the lens located on a second side, which is opposite the first side, of the light source

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These limitations are fully supported in the disclosure by Fig.3 and the related description, for instance. No new matter is entered.

Witte does not teach such an arrangement of the light source, lens, and reflective piece.

- 5 Witte also does not suggest such an arrangement. This is because Witte's device is for scanning transparent media (col. 3, lines 40-43; Abstract; Title). Should Witte's device be modified to meet the claimed arrangement, it would not longer be useful to scan transparent media, the light paths for scanning opaque and transparent materials being fundamentally different.

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Claim 1 is also further amended to more clearly define the structure of the reflective piece and protrusion as follows:

- 15 the reflective piece...having a length running substantially parallel to the line except at the protrusion where the length is angled with respect to the line

- 20 Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments made to claim 1 and the remarks above. Claims 5 and 8-10 are dependent on claim 1 and should be allowed if claim 1 is found allowable.

3. Rejection of claims 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Witte in view of Edwards, Jr. (US 6,092,913):

- 25 Reconsideration of claim 2 is requested in view of the amendments to claim 1 and the remarks above. Claim 2 is dependent and should be allowed if claim 1 is found allowable.

4. Rejection of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Appl. No. 10/709,610
Amdt. dated January 24, 2006
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Witte in view of Hoffmann (US 2,567,561):

Reconsideration of claims 3 and 4 is requested in view of the amendments to claim 1 and the remarks above. Claims 3 and 4 are dependent and should be allowed if claim 1 is
5 found allowable.

5. Rejection of claims 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Witte in view of Verfueth (US 6,585,396):

10 Reconsideration of claim 6 is requested in view of the amendments to claim 1 and the remarks above. Claim 6 is dependent and should be allowed if claim 1 is found allowable.

6. Rejection of claims 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Witte in view of Gatto et al. (US 6,034,784):

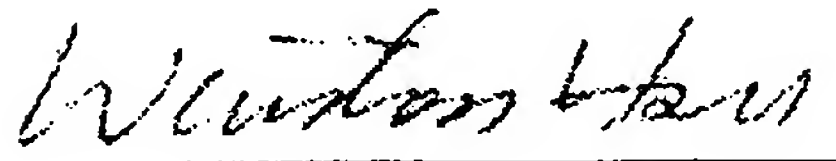
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Reconsideration of claim 7 is requested in view of the amendments to claim 1 and the remarks above. Claim 7 is dependent and should be allowed if claim 1 is found allowable.

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Appl. No. 10/709,610
Amdt. dated January 24, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 01, 2005

Sincerely yours,



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